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AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

Letter dated 8 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the concluding statement of Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and President of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water at the special (informal) meeting of the States parties held in New York on 10 August 1993 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 65 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Nugroho WISNUMURTI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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* A/48/150 and Corr.1.

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ANNEX

Concluding statement of the President of the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water at the special (informal) meeting of the States Parties, held in New York on 10 August 1993

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/46 of 9 December 1992, a special meeting of the States parties to the 1963 Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water was held on 10 August 1993. There was a general exchange of views on the developments regarding the issue of nuclear testing, and the parties considered the feasibility of resuming the work of the Amendment Conference.

2. The special meeting welcomed the encouraging developments concerning nuclear testing, in particular the de facto moratoria on nuclear tests declared by some nuclear States and their commitment to work expeditiously towards achieving a comprehensive test ban.

3. The special meeting further welcomed the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to give its Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban a mandate to negotiate a comprehensive test ban.

4. The urgency for achieving a comprehensive test ban, as well as the need for an expeditious means to realize this objective, was emphasized by the special meeting.

5. The special meeting directed its attention to the fact that the consideration of a comprehensive test ban has been under way on three tracks, namely in the Conference on Disarmament, in the Amendment Conference and in the consultations among the nuclear Powers. While some delegations expressed their own preference as to the forum in which a comprehensive test ban should be pursued, there was a general consensus that the work on a comprehensive test ban in the different forums, and especially between the Amendment Conference and the Conference on Disarmament, should be mutually supportive and mutually complementary.

6. There was also a broad consensus among the States parties that the President of the Amendment Conference should continue his consultations with the States parties as well as States not parties to the Treaty and to hold another special meeting early in 1994 in order to review developments and assess the situation regarding a comprehensive nuclear test ban and to examine the feasibility of resuming the work of the Amendment Conference later that year. In this connection, it was recalled that pursuant to the decision of the Amendment Conference, further work needed to be undertaken, especially with regard to verification of compliance and possible sanctions against non-compliance.

7. In order to promote universality of a comprehensive test ban, the special meeting considered it essential that, in pursuing his efforts, the President of the Amendment Conference closely liaise with the Conference on Disarmament and with the five nuclear Powers.

8. The special meeting agreed that the elements of consensus emerging from this meeting could be used as the basis for formulating a draft resolution on the Amendment Conference at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly.